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Dated: March 31, 2004

Signature: Kurt Buechele  
(Kurt T. Buechle)

Docket No.: 29985/01-059  
(PATENT) 3754 #

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Eric Houde

Confirmation No. 9790

Application No.: 10/043,052

Group Art Unit: 3754

Filed: January 9, 2002

Examiner: Keasel, Eric

For: FLUID MANAGEMENT VALVE

### RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The Applicant respectfully requests entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks prior to further examination on the merits.

**Amendments to the claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the drawings** begin on page 8 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 9 of this paper.

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